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OF RELIGION

The Pacific

94th Year NOVEMBER, 1944 51 No. 9

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

"Our work is only begun. We are pressed to forget the things which are behind and to reach forth unto the things which are before." Such was the spirit of the 88th annual meeting of the Northern California Congregational Conference as Supt. Harley Gill in his address quoted the words of Supt. J. H. Warren, 77 years ago.

Meeting at First Church, Oakland, whose 14 committees of hospitality under the guidance of Dr. and Mrs. Reidenbach took such good care of us, the three days proved indeed the promised "feast of good things."

Time would fail us even to list the many high points of fellowship—the laymen's dinner, the Federation luncheon, and so on. This reporter, even at risk of omitting some names, can mention only a few of the many quotable items.

Rev. Truman B. Douglass, executive vice-president of the Board of Home Missions, gave a ringing call to deeper faith in Christ, in the face of the rampant secularism of our time. Mrs. E. E. McClintock stressed our responsibility, in a world where all people have become neighbors, for the physical and spiritual rebuilding of the world and for the unity of all men in Christ.

In the panel of The Church and the New Day, Dr. Buell Gallagher spoke of South Berkeley: "This is not an experiment. This is a prophecy, and a recovery of the inherent inclusiveness of the church." Supt. Nelson Dreier, who brought greetings from the Southwest Conference, challenged us with the fact that 7 million Americans have moved west of the Rockies since the beginning of the war, and reminded us that our job is not "preservation"—but pioneering.

At the closing banquet special tribute was paid to Rev. and Mrs. Wallace Furze, upon the occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary, and in recognition of 10 years of faithful service by Mr. Furze as Conference Treasurer. Rev. T. T. Giffen, after telling the story of Mr. Furze and relating some of his adventures as a Christian business man, presented Mr. and Mrs. Furze each with a fountain pen as a token of appreciation from the Conference Board.

The centrality of devotion and the primacy of God were kept before us by the Worship Services conducted by Rev. Ralph Conard, and through the Conference Sermon by Rev. Godfrey Matthews.

Moderator Fred Morrow, piloted us with skill and geniality through the business sessions. Reports of the officers and committees of the Conference give evidence of faithful service and expanding vision in our work together.

Announcement was made of the appointment by the Board of a special committee to investigate and proceed with possible plans for a Summer Conference Campsite. This committee consists of Rev. W. W. Meyer, Rev. Sidney Buckham, Mrs. Laura Haymond, Mr. George Martin, Rev. Edward Ouellette, Rev. A. W. Monosmith and Rev. A. C. Hacke.

Plans were presented by Rev. E. T. Sherman for a campaign of expansion for The PACIFIC. A significant number of Churches are now considering, and a few already practice, a plan of sending The PACIFIC to every Church family.

MEET OUR NEW OFFICERS

At its annual meeting the Conference elected the following officers:

Moderator—Mr. David H. Gill.

Assistant Moderator—Rev. Arthur L. Rice.

Registrar—Rev. Harley H. Gill.

Preacher—Rev. Benjamin H. Kissler.

Alternate Preacher—Rev. Buell Gallagher.

Fraternal Delegate to Southern California—Rev. William W. Meyer.

Visitors to Pacific School of Religion—Rev. Holland Burr, Rev. G. A. Casaday, and Rev. E. W. Benedict.

Representatives to Northern California Council of Churches—Rev. S. C. Peabody, Rev. A. C. McGiffert, Jr., Rev. S. H. Buckham, Rev. Donald F. Gaylord, Rev. Augustine Jones.

The Committee on Ministerial Standing for the coming year, including holdover members as well as those newly elected, will be:

Class of 1945—Rev. H. J. Loken, Rev. Noel J. Breed, Rev. Godfrey Matthews.

Class of 1946—Rev. Arthur L. Rice, Rev. Willis L. Goldsmith, Rev. A. C. McGiffert, Jr., Rev. E. T. Sherman.

Class of 1947—Rev. Stephen C. Peabody, Rev. Torrance Phelps, Rev. Gordon L. Foster.

The Board of Directors, who will have in charge the business of the Conference for the year 1944-45, will have 21 members, some of them elected at the Conference and others holding over, as follows:

1945—Rev. T. T. Giffen, *Mr. George B. Martin, *Rev. Vere V. Loper, Mr. Harold T. Avery, Mr. A. J. Watson, *Rev. John H. Gregg, Mrs. E. W. Benedict.

1946—*Mr. David H. Gill, *Rev. Augustine Jones, Rev. Benjamin H. Kissler, *Rev. Fred R. Morrow, Rev. A. C. Hacke, *Mr. Peirce Coombes, *Mrs. R. A. Fuller.

1947—*Rev. Robert W. Inglis, Mr. Ralph G. Cole, *Rev. Jason Noble Pierce, Mrs. Torrance Phelps, *Mrs. Scott Haymond, Mr. C. R. Van Buskirk, Rev. T. E. Watt.

At the first meeting of the Board, Peirce Coombes was elected President, Mrs. Scott Haymond, Vice-President; Harley H. Gill, Secretary; W. Wallace Furze, Treasurer; C. S. Morse, Assistant Treasurer; and George E. Oefinger, Auditor. The Executive Committee will consist of the President and the Vice-President and the names in the paragraph above preceded by an asterisk (*).

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLVED that the annual meeting of the Northern California Congregational Conference sustains the constitutional right of American born Japanese, and the democratic right of alien Japanese loyal to our Government now in relocation centers, to return to the Pacific coast when they are permitted to do so by the War Department. Furthermore, we, the representatives of the churches of this Conference, pledge ourselves to work conscientiously for the promotion of goodwill in our local communities toward the Japanese and all other racial minorities.

WHEREAS we have noted with alarm the rising tendency within America and the United Nations to demand vengeance upon our enemies in the period following the cessation of armed hostilities, be it resolved that we, the representatives of the Northern California Congregational Conference, challenge the doctrine of peace by vengeance as un-Christian, and with equal strength proclaim the principle of justice and the gospel of love, which is the word of God for mankind in this and every situation.

WHEREAS the leaders of our denomination are deeply concerned about the recruiting of young people for the ministry and kindred religious vocations, and nation-wide reports indicate appalling shortages now in the pastorate and also in theological seminaries, be it resolved that the Northern California Congregational Conference go on record as supporting and encouraging the Pacific School of Religion in its effort to render increasingly vital service in the recruiting and training of ministers and other religious leaders. The Pacific School of Religion is now enlisting sponsors to help in its developing program. We understand that a sponsor is one who will contribute ten dollars or more and in other ways help increase the influence of the School. We, therefore, assign to the Committee of Visitors to Pacific School of Religion the responsibility of assisting the School in the promotion of this sponsorship program in the Conference.

RESOLVED that, whereas we the representatives of the Northern California Congregational Conference look upon our country as one of the most powerful exponents of democracy in the world today, we do earnestly pray that this nation may continue to play her historic role in leading all peoples toward the realization of freedom and brotherhood. Believing that war and national rivalry are the most immediate threat to civilized life in our time and an inescapable challenge to Christian discipleship, we resolve to support with all our resources those leaders and policies, and only those, which work toward a just peace settlement, a speedy restoration of free and friendly relations among all nations, and, as the basis for these blessings, an inclusive world organization with effective power to settle differences and maintain order.

RESOLVED that the annual meeting of the Northern California Congregational Conference opposes the movement in this nation to decide the question of compulsory peacetime military conscription while the war is still on.

RESOLVED that we, the members of the Northern California Congregational Conference, express our gratitude to the First Congregational Church of Oakland and its pastor and to the Women's Society of that Church for their willingness to entertain the 1944 State Conference. We commend the members of the Church for the splendid way in which they have handled this gathering. We appreciate the difficulties involved in this task under present day restrictions, and so we extend our hearty thanks with double emphasis.

HAYDEN AND SILL ORDAINED

It is a thrill to all of us to welcome into the fellowship of ministers of this Conference two such able and outstanding candidates as the Rev. Henry H. Hayden and the Rev. Eugene Sill. Both of them originally came to us from beyond our own Conference. Both have taken their training at our own Pacific School of Religion. Both have been asked to continue full time in churches which they began to serve as student pastors.

On October 9 at a council, called at the request of the Community Congregational Church of Guerneville, Henry Hoyt Hayden was ordained to the Christian ministry. Rev. Frank E. Boren served as moderator and conducted the examination in the afternoon. A delicious fried chicken dinner was served by the women of the church. At the evening service the Scripture lesson was read by Mr. James P. Senter. Rev. David Stowe baptized the Hayden's infant son, David Hoyt. The sermon was by Rev. James Muilenburg, the prayer of ordination by Rev. Gordon Foster, the charge to the minister by Rev. Edward F. Ouellette, and the charge to the church by Supt. Harley H. Gill. Rev. A. W. Monosmith extended the right hand of fellowship. Not only was their baby baptized as a part of the occasion, but it was also Henry's 26th birthday. Under the leadership of Mr. Hayden the Guerneville church has been making rapid strides forward and we are confident that this trend will continue.

The ordination of Clinton Eugene Sill took place on October 24 at the Ocean View Congregational Church, San Francisco, where Mr. Sill has served as pastor since the summer of 1941. Rev. Donald Gaylord, moderator of the Bay Association, served also as moderator of the council and presided while Mr. Sill read a very comprehensive statement and stood the examination of the council. After an enjoyable dinner the service of ordination was held. The sermon was preached by Rev. Lowell A. Young, now at Atascadero, formerly pastor at San Bernardino where Eugene Sill began his active work in the church. Prof. James Muilenburg offered the prayer of ordination, and other parts in the service were taken by Rev. Clarence Reidenbach, Rev. G. A. Charnock, Rev. Jason Noble Pierce, Rev. Ralph V. Conard, Rev. Godfrey Matthews, and the moderator, Rev. Donald F. Gaylord.

DOUGLASS SEES NEW PROJECTS

While Dr. Truman B. Douglass, Executive Vice-President of the Board of Home Missions, was in this area, Superintendent Gill made arrangement for him to see at first hand Orinda, Arlington Avenue, San Lorenzo, and Port Chicago, where extensive new projects are under way. He expressed his deep interest in these opportunities, which the Conference with the local people have undertaken to meet.

GET YOUR CANVASS MATERIAL

Pastors and Every Member Canvass Committees will do well to remember that there are several helpful leaflets, as well as information cards and pledge cards, available through the Conference office. Sample packets were mailed to each of the pastors; quantity supplies may be secured without cost. Send in your order blanks, and materials will be mailed to you promptly.

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Harley H. Gill, Editor
Northern California
Congregational Headquarters
1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco, 2, Calif.

They Also Serve

Early in the war, the popular (if somewhat inaccurate) song, "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition," made us vividly aware of the part Chaplains are playing in our armed forces, and since that time many magazine articles and books have testified to the devotion and bravery of these men. In camps in this country, on ships at sea, in every theatre of operations, the Chaplains hold unique positions as spiritual guides and leaders, as well as day by day helpers in practical affairs. Their duties and their opportunities for service are manifold, and their tasks among the most challenging and important which a minister can assume. Commanding officers everywhere affirm that when a chaplain has won the affection as well as the respect of his men, he is considered one of the most important parts of a unit. He conducts services; he cheers the sick by visiting them and writing their letters; he himself often writes to their families; he provides fun and recreation; he helps keep Christian men in touch with their home churches, and, by his association with a group, often wins others to the Christian way of life; he frequently performs deeds of valor on the battlefield itself.

It is good to know that the Congregational Christian churches have several hundred representatives in this service and contribute a substantial sum to further their labors. We must not forget them.

It is not too early for us to begin to think of a Christmas offering to our fund for War Victims and Services to supplement the amount given by regular contributors. By such gifts we can help in a great work and perhaps even "give a new life" to some one in commemoration of the birth of our Lord.

—Miriam S. Converse.

ARTS GUILD LAUNCHED

A meeting of the Arts Guild was held during the annual Conference, with Rev. Torrance Phelps as general chairman. The national Arts Guild is now a part of the General Council. Its purpose is to utilize the spiritual value of art for the many departments of church work.

The chairmen of the various sections are as follows: Architecture, Landscaping, and Sign Boards— Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe and Rev. W. L. Goldsmith; Altars —Rev. Godfrey Matthews and Rev. E. W. Benedict; Symbolism—Rev. A. L. Rice; Art Windows—Rev. John H. Gregg; Sacraments—Rev. Holland Burr; Art and Religious Education—Rev. E. T. Sherman; Drama—Rev. A. R. Boone; Painting and Sculpture for Church and Home —Miss Alice D. English; Church Music— Mr. James P. Senter; Photography— Rev. E. F. Ouellette; Craft Workshop— Rev. T. D. Preston; Art for Women's Work, flower arrangement, etc.—Mrs. H. J. Loken and Mrs. H. S. Clewett. Each chairman will gather material for his field, make it available for any who wish to present the program to the Guild.

"When the Roll . . ."

Our benevolence giving still holds the lead over last year, but in most cases it has hardly become a "courageous and substantial increase," nor do we begin to match the world's tragic need of Christ. Two-thirds of the churches are responsible for the present lead, but some are lagging, perhaps due merely to failure to make remittances. In the two remaining months of the apportionment year, let us all gird to work together with our eyes on the tasks ahead of us.

CHURCH	October 1944	Jan.1 to Oct.31,'44	Jan.1 to Oct.31,'43
Adin	$ 2.50	$ 2.50	$ 6.47
Alameda	105.68	723.01	617.82
Alturas	23.79	82.39	84.66
Angels Camp	75.18	112.77	112.50
Antioch	.....	58.34	24.43
Auburn	10.00	131.60	100.00
Benicia	.....	.....	56.61
Berkeley, Arlington	.....	65.80	20.00
Chinese	50.00	50.00	.....
First	446.34	4,783.25	4,159.87
North	32.40	445.54	442.01
Northbrae	.....	304.50	.....
Park	.....	.....	171.24
Campbell	.....	155.00	245.00
Cedarville	.....	50.00	75.00
Cloverdale	.....	81.71	63.12
Cotati	10.00	96.14	63.38
Crockett	17.65	121.71	77.81
Etna	.....	5.84	.....
Eureka	.....	362.97	378.97
Fairfax	47.79	72.79	30.75
Ferndale	.....	347.50	320.88
Fresno, First	250.00	1,061.24	1,165.33
Pilgrim	.....	200.00	200.00
Glen Ellen	19.50	73.55	54.60
Guerneville	25.00	25.00	15.00
Hayward	100.00	300.00	200.00
Kenwood	.....	21.47	22.25
Likely	.....	.....	29.04
Lodi, First	.....	1,888.78	1,228.25
Loleta	5.37	52.22	28.73
Loomis	.....	27.13	43.67
Martinez	24.40	303.26	338.87
Murphys	.....	81.00	81.00
Niles	.....	55.00	.....
Oakland, First	880.00	4,560.00	4,460.00
Fruitvale	15.00	45.00	45.00
Pilgrim	10.00	45.00	21.00
Plymouth	63.62	1,067.22	885.70
Orinda	9.00	45.00	.....
Oroville	39.38	248.49	191.29
Pacific Grove	.....	281.54	264.88
Palo Alto	.....	250.00	950.00
Paradise	50.00	275.00	257.70
Parlier	.....	50.00	10.00
Penngrove	11.00	84.59	40.82
Pescadero	.....	10.00	.....
Petaluma	.....	423.15	534.49
Pittsburg	26.83	183.33	129.15
Port Chicago	.....	105.82	11.42
Porterville	200.00	600.00	400.00
Redwood City	197.37	690.76	565.67
Rio Vista	.....	44.00	14.00
Ripon	70.31	250.16	172.45
Sacramento	80.00	800.00	665.30
Salida	37.00	102.00	90.00
San Carlos	10.00	138.01	101.31
San Francisco, Bethany, Msn. Park	.....	223.00	216.92
Calvary	.....	30.00	.....
First	20.00	677.60	1,119.37
Ocean View	.....	80.00	82.00
Park Presidio	.....	82.00	140.00
San Jose	56.05	615.89	615.00
San Leandro	17.50	120.65	93.54
San Mateo	.....	1,167.16	784.17
San Rafael	.....	105.00	40.00
Santa Cruz	.....	645.00	400.00
Santa Rosa	16.00	170.50	127.50
Saratoga	.....	465.80	448.13
Sebastopol	.....	245.11	151.31
Sonoma	.....	113.50	107.24
Soquel	60.00	178.00	89.10
Stockton	54.54	485.82	490.09
Suisun	.....	75.00	75.00
Sunnyvale	31.35	81.65	52.00
Tulare	51.00	500.00	411.00
Weaverville	.....	70.00	100.00
Woodside	.....	53.80	26.00
Reno, Nevada	59.97	494.26	391.61
Miscellaneous and Individual	54.90	1,290.72	1,023.79
	$3,366.42	$30,411.54	$27,251.21

Includes individual gifts for new work, Pilgrim Fellowship contributions, and per capita taxes from German Churches.

W. R. A. FILM AVAILABLE

"A Challenge to Democracy" is a 28-minute sound movie in color, telling the story of the Japanese-Americans, with scenes from various centers, from relocated families, and from Camp Shelby where the 442nd Combat Team was in training.

Not only is the film available free to Church groups, but Mr. Robert Gibson, an Educational Director of the War Relocation Authority, will bring his projector and speak about its significance. Address inquiries to him, care W. R. A., Market St., S. F.

A Church in Exile

Following are excerpts from a letter written by the Rev. Norio Ozaki, pastor of our Oakland Japanese Church at the time of the evacuation. After two years in the hospital he is now with his people who are left in the Relocation Center at Topaz, Utah.

"Last night we, the members of Oakland Congregational Church, gathered first time since we came to Topaz in a home. Twenty-two came. In the last two years all of our young were relocated. Two of them passed away. A peculiar feeling prevailed from the beginning of the meeting. All of them were shedding tears. We didn't know why. We knew we were happy to see all members gathered in one room. But we thought of our friends who had been relocated. We talked about them. We talked about our young people in the army. So many people still would like to come back to California. Some of them say sometimes: 'What's good about California; only the climate is nice.' They say that because they can't go back now, and they are only rationalizing the situation. In their hearts they would like to go back to California. Who wouldn't like to go back to their birthplaces? . . . "

Returning Service Men

Our national Committee on Work with Returning Service Men has prepared a series of recordings for use on any ordinary phonograph. Each set provides basic material for an entire evening's program. There are three different sets now available free, from the Conference office:

1. **"The Churches' Opportunity and Responsibility."** Two records (4 sides) lasts 15 minutes. It features dramatized excerpts from letters written by service men, telling what they expect of the church when they get back home. Dr. Douglas Horton serves as commentator.

2. **"Home Isn't Home Any More"** (3 sides). This is the dramatic story of a soldier who returned and found that home wasn't what he expected it to be. Professional comments by a well known psychiatrist. And—

"Dorothy" (one side). A special, unrehearsed interview with a young wife whose husband was badly wounded.

3. **"Seven Years In Two."** One of our chaplains and a special counselor discuss the problem of the rapid growing up of the boy who goes away at 18 and returns 2 years later 7 years older.

Christian Education

WORLD SERVICE SCHOOLS

Twenty-nine of our northern California church schools have enrolled as members of the World Service plan, and have received the book containing programs prepared by the national offices. Two programs on projects within our own state conference are in course of preparation, which will be mailed in a few weeks. Other church schools, which have not yet sent in their enrollment blanks and fees ($1 per school) are urged to do so at once, and thus join in this program of regular missionary education.

WEEK-DAY R. E. NEWS

The Week-day School movement in Northern California has spread this Fall into 117 communities reported to the Northern California Council of Churches. Large programs are to be found in the cities of Berkeley, Fresno, Hayward, Lodi, Oakland, Palo Alto, Sacramento, San Jose, San Mateo, Stockton and Vallejo. Ten small cities have programs operating in more than one school. Almost 100 one-school communities are in operation, a large number of which are working conscientiously on standards equal to public school work.

A promising trend in the movement is the employment of full time teachers, there being 17 employed this Fall, most of whom are professionally trained for teaching religion. Some are employed by one city, others by a combinations of towns. Nearly 60 part-time teachers have had some training contacts with the Council of Churches; there are probably 40 others who have not affiliated with the movement.

The number of children enrolled in the classes has not been determined, but undoubtedly it will exceed 10,000. In many communities last year it was discovered that about half the pupils were not attending a church at the time of their enrollment. This missionary task of the church is recognized by the teachers as an opportunity gradually to win them for Christ and the Church. Leaders of one town with four churches say frankly that they can attribute to no other cause the fact of the increased enrollment in all four church schools on Sunday. The churched children show enthusiasm for the type of unified historical courses extending through the year.

Definite gain in interest by public school leaders is discovered this Fall, even from some who opposed the movement last year.

ERWIN SHAVER COMING

Pastors and Superintendents will be glad to hear that Dr. Erwin L. Shaver, Director of Leadership Education for our denomination, and Week-day Director for the International Council of Religious Education, will be with us for several weeks in the Spring. The Christian Education Committee is making plans which should enable every teacher in every Church School to meet him in one of a series of rallies and institutes.

VISUAL OPPORTUNITIES INCREASE

Pictures are the essential present-day method of teaching for both young and old. The "moving picture" houses are holding intense interest, the so-called "funny magazines" are reacting on the minds of our children, and many of the better magazines such as "Life" are majoring in pictures, illustrations of everyday happenings, and are reaching extensive lists of subscribers. Churches must meet this challenge. It is up to the Religious Educators, Teachers and Ministers, to take advantage of the already available equipment and comprehensive methods which are at hand.

Of all the visual aids that have been developed for use in our churches, the filmslide is the most practical. It is better adapted to teaching methods than the moving picture. Literally hundreds of subjects are available to meet every conceivable need for religious teaching: Missions, Church History, special day programs, illustrated song services, and even church reports; every member canvasses and building campaigns can be made attractive and more effective through the use of projector and slides. The Kodachrome library of reliigous pictures offers a rich source of reproductions of the greatest paintings in the world at nominal cost. Maps, outlines, diagrams, pictures, and actual photographs can be secured or made to order.

Since these are "stills" and not moving pictures, teachers can use as much or little as desired to develop a chosen theme. Sunday School lessons become vital and interesting.

Rev. E. T. Sherman of Rio Vista, Chairman of the Christian Education Committee, will be glad to answer inquiries and/or to arrange for demonstrations. As reported in the October PACIFIC, the Conference office has six sets of Kodachrome slides now which are available to the churches at a nominal rent.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

MARTINEZ. The pastor, Rev. T. T. Giffen, has so far recovered from a recent illness that he is carrying on his regular work. During the past month lay leadership is largely responsible for keeping the program going satisfactorily. The Church School, led by Mrs. A. R. Skewis as superintendent, is showing a healthy increase over a year ago. A Bible Class meets Sunday mornings under the leadership of Ralph Reiner, recently of Korea. The Pilgrim Fellowship, under Allen Arnold, a recent graduate of Oberlin, is showing new signs of life and has taken as a special project the securing of money for the purchase of chimes with an amplifying system. In cooperation with other churches a week-day school is held for one whole day each week. The church has been treated to two coats of paint from the proceeds of special offerings. The choir starts the Sunday morning services with a processional. They have new maroon robes as the partial result of a concert that netted $300.00. On World Communion Sunday twenty-three new members were received, which makes fifty members during 1944. Mr. Giffen is giving on Sundays a series of sermons which attempt to sum up what he has been saying about the cardinal points of the Christian religion during the thirty-four years of his ministry. The general theme is: "Conversations in the Study," with special subjects: "About the Bible," "About Jesus," "About God," "About the Church," "About Christian Conduct."

SAN LORENZO. Fifteen hundred attractive printed circulars are being distributed, inviting people of the community to share in the services and program of the Christian Union Church. Three additional volunteers have been enrolled in the teaching staff of the church school. Plans are under way for the organization of a high school department and for a new worship program. Rev. Homer Schwarz, the pastor, has completed an up-to-date file of names and addresses in the parish.

OROVILLE. The Women's Guild has completed payment of its pledge to the church, a total of $300.00. In addition to the pastor, Rev. Maurice L. deVries, and his wife, six delegates attended the State Conference in Oakland, a splendid delegation from Oroville. One of the delegates was Dr. Prescott Thompson, former Pilgrim Fellowship President.

FRESNO, PILGRIM. During the summer, the Ladies' Aid celebrated the 40th anniversary of the organization of the Society. In September the church acted as host to the Women's Association of the San Joaquin Valley, and on the same day to the Ministers' Clinic studying post-war problems. A number of fellowship occasions late in summer stimulated interest in the various organizations in preparation for the opening of their fall programs. Rev. H. A. Chakmakjian, the pastor, has sent lists to PACIFIC indicating that more than 160 names are now on the Service roll, with one gold star opposite the name of Luther Avakian who was reported "killed in action" over France on June 7.

BERKELEY, FIRST. Sunday, October 8, honored the church school staff, when Rev. Vere V. Loper, the pastor, used as his sermon subject, "Education for Character." Evening radio speakers have been Rev. David Stowe, Dr. John Wright Buckham, Dr. Dwight Rugh of Yale-in-China, and Rev. William W. Meyer. Wednesday, October 18, saw the opening night of the fall seminars. There are six groups offered this year: American Ideals, Aspirations and Traditions; Christian Teaching; The Drama of Biblical Religion; Human Relations in a Democracy; Assets for Families of Fighting Men; and World Religion in Literature.

BENICIA. A live Building Committee, working in cooperation with the pastor, Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe, has outlined a program of building and improvement, with some of the plans already under way. The six main projects are: Modernizing the sanctuary, landscaping the grounds, providing an office and study, building an educational unit, redecorating the exterior, and remodeling the social hall. Already 22 people have put in over 260 hours on the chancel alone.

PALO ALTO. The Church School opened its fall season with an increased attendance of 30 percent. Some necessary changes in the building were made to accommodate the enlarged classes. Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Humphreys of the Yosemite Forest Service have come to Palo Alto and are sponsoring the High School round table, which is growing in interest and attendance. The church collected twenty-eight boxes of clothing for the UNRA drive. Rev. Augustine Jones is the pastor.

LODI. More than 500 pounds of good warm clothing was collected and shipped in response to the UNRA appeal. Twenty-four fruit cakes have been mailed thus far to the boys over-seas, and other gifts are going to the remaining thirty-three boys on the Service roll. Rev. A. R. Boone and seven other delegates attended the State Conference. Mr. and Mrs. Boone were honored on their 25th wedding anniversary when 126 friends gathered at the church, and as a token of love and esteem presented a chest of sterling silver to the pastor and his wife. Week-day classes in religious instruction are well organized and fine progress is being made.

REDWOOD CITY. Rev. and Mrs. Charles E. Ward were honored at a church dinner sponsored by the Women's Guild on November 1 and presented with several war bonds by church friends, on the eve of their departure after a pastorate of over eight years, one of the longest in the Church's 82 year history. Chairman A. C. Argo of the committee on pastor reports that a suitable interim pastor has been secured to carry on during the search. Under its new officers, the Pilgrim Fellowship participated in the San Carlos rally, and has held several parties, including a waffle spread. Over 800 pounds of clothing were rounded up and packed by the church for the UNRA.

SACRAMENTO. Sunday, October 8, was the occasion of the "Service for the Burning of the Mortgage," with such prominent citizens as the Mayor of Sacramento and the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, as well as lay men and women of the church participating in the program. Rev. Torrance Phelps, the pastor, received twenty-five new members into fellowship on the Sunday following.

SANTA ROSA. Rev. Gordon L. Foster, the pastor, who is serving both the Congregational and Presbyterian churches for the duration, is preaching a series of sermons on the theme "Essentials of our Protestant Faith." On World Communion Sunday his topic was "The Protestant Concept of the Church," and the week following, "The Right of Private Judgment."

COTATI. Rev. A. W. Monosmith, the pastor, reports that a much needed cement walk has been laid about the church property. The church school is flourishing.

OAKLAND, PILGRIM. Attendance at morning worship has been over 60, a splendid increase over the summer months. New concrete steps have been constructed and some repairs are now taking place on the interior of the church. Rev. Byron Eshelman, the pastor, served as Scribe at the State Conference meeting.

SAN MATEO. This church moved into the fall season with a fine program. The first church night dinner presented as its speaker, Louis Dolivet, French patriot and editor of the "Free World" magazine. Seven rooms, upstairs and down, have been redecorated and are to have new curtains and some of them, matching chairs. Church school has a staff of 22 teachers, headed by Mrs. H. C. Clifford, the new director of Christian education. Rev. Sidney H. Buckham is the pastor.

PENNGROVE. During the summer months the church auditorium has been redecorated. A new Pilgrim Fellowship group has been organized this fall under the direction of Mrs. Pearl Brookover Brians. Rev. A. W. Monosmith is the pastor.

OAKLAND, FIRST. At the Women's League luncheon a shower of Christmas packages for the boys at sea on Christmas Day was held. About 200 gifts were turned over to the Red Cross. The Fellowship Club presented a program, "Club Casa de Manana," on Friday the 13th, the proceeds of which will be devoted to open house entertainment for Service men on Sunday afternoons. Rev. Clarence Reidenbach, the pastor, is conducting a fall series of mid-week services dealing with the great verses of comfort in the Bible. On Laymen's Sunday splendid sermons were given by Mr. C. T. Tinker and Mr. F. Howard Seely, one at each morning service. Thirty men formed the choir and presented special music.

BERKELEY, NORTH. A successful Family Night Dinner was held as the first in a series planned this year. A contract has been approved for the razing of the social hall which was ruined by fire in September. With the help of the new pastor, Rev. Eugene Haynes, the Pilgrim Fellowship group has been reorganized and is undertaking to publish the annual handbook of the Northern California Pilgrim Fellowship.

SARATOGA. The October pot-luck dinner presented as its guest speaker the Rev. George W. Phillips, pioneer in the radio ministry, who is now making his home in Saratoga. Week-day released time instruction for grade school pupils began October 11, with the pastor, Rev. Fred W. Morrow, and a staff of teachers in charge.

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH. Four Wednesday evenings, beginning October 25, will be devoted to "The School of Christian Living," with Dr. Hugh Vernon White as the speaker. October 27 was set aside as "Family Craft and Fun Night," beginning with a cooperative dinner and providing opportunities for craft work and games. Five laymen participated in the morning service on Laymen's Sunday, permitting the minister, Rev. Robert Inglis, to be auditor for one Sunday.

ALAMEDA. Young people of the Phi Kappa group invited young people of other churches to share in their October 29 meeting, when Rev. C. A. Stanley, formerly of China, was guest speaker. Rev. Ralph Conard, the pastor, conducts a Bible study group on Wednesday evenings, to which church school teachers are especially invited.

SANTA CRUZ. A crowded church greeted the pastor, Rev. H. S. Mahood, after his vacation trip. The service was followed by a dinner and fellowship occasion. Mrs. J. H. McCartney of San Leandro was guest speaker at the Women's Club meeting, where she reported on the General Council meeting at Grand Rapids.

FERNDALE and LOLETA. Rev. Robert B. Whitaker, who serves these two churches, writes that Ferndale sent 15 packages, amounting to nearly 600 pounds of clothing in good condition, and Loleta sent 11 packages, in response to the UNRRA appeal.

A Thought for the Month

By REV. DONALD F. GAYLORD, Grace United Church, San Francisco.

There is a beautiful and much loved verse in the famous 40th chapter of Isaiah which says: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength: they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." Beloved though this passage is, it has not infrequently been pointed out that it seems anti-climactic, descending from soaring like eagles to mere walking.

It has, however, also been shown that in a deeper sense the verse is in true climactic order as it stands. One of the notable things about human nature is its ability to meet crises heroically, to rise to sudden great demands with amazing strength and courage. We can mount up with wings as eagles. Most of us, further, can meet even those situations calling for a somewhat protracted exertion of more than ordinary strength and spiritual stamina with surprising power. We can run and not be weary. But the hardest of all is day in and day out Christian living. One of the things which used to baffle me was the knowledge that some of the great heroes of the Church failed in their ordinary Christian living. I understand now: they were merely revealing in a striking manner the fact that walking is hardest of all.

The most severe trial of our Christian life and faith, then, is in our daily living, our ordinary human contacts. Since even the great Christian martyrs have sometimes fallen here, we ordinary Christians have the opportunity to succeed where they failed. By living each day and hour in the light of Christ, by filling every human relationship with the spirit of love and shining Christian faith, we can make our lives truly great. And the same source of power is available as in soaring or running. It is He "that giveth power to the faint, and to him who hath no might he increaseth strength . . . They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength . . ."

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WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Edited by Miss Helen M. Perkins

The next meeting of the Federation will be held November 16—the regular third Thursday—in the First Church, Oakland.

FEDERATION LUNCHEON

The Annual Meeting of the Conference has come and gone. Most of the reports concerning it will be found in other departments of the paper, but one period belonged distinctly to the women. On Thursday noon the women of the Federation, who are also the women of the Conference, met for luncheon in the First Church, Oakland, Hostess Church for the Conference. It was a delicious and bountiful meal that was served to us, and the decorations, both of the quaint baskets of flowers on the tables and of the brilliant color massed at the end of the dining hall, were most attractive. Mrs. Clarence Reidenbach presided at the luncheon and presented those at the Speaker's table—officers of the Federation and of the local Women's League and others to whom much of the success of the gathering was due.

Mrs. McClintock's Address

Mrs. Scott Haymond, our Federation President, introduced the speaker of the hour, Mrs. E. E. McClintock of Chicago. Mrs. McClintock was not introduced as a stranger, for she had spent most of the preceding month in visiting all the Associations, speaking and helping the women with their problems.

She based her talk on a statue of the "Pioneer Woman" which stands in a square of an Oklahoma city. Pictures of the statue have made it familiar to many. The pioneer woman is shown walking forward into an unknown but threatening future, yet with courage and confidence in her face. By one hand she leads her little son; in the other she carries her Bible, while over her arm is hung a bag with her small belongings. That pioneer woman, in Mrs. McClintock's mind, typifies all women. The bag with its contents symbolizes the gifts womankind may bring to the world; and Mrs. McClintock quoted the poem of Kahlil Gibran—"Giving"—closing with the words: "Through the hands of such as these God speaks, and from behind their eyes He smiles upon the earth." The Bible the mother carries represents the voice of God, through whatever channel it may come to us. Her care for the little lad whose hand she holds goes beyond the love of mother for child and expresses the concern for all human need, which is at the heart of every Christian woman. Every such an one is a spiritual mother, and the needs of the world are as often spiritual as material. In one regard the Pioneer Woman ceases to be a type of ourselves: she is alone, we are not. We are part of a fellowship that goes beyond the bounds of Federation or Conference, and extends into all parts of our country (as the report Mrs. J. H. McCartney brought back to us from the General Council meeting at Grand Rapids proves). As Congregational women, too, we have special privileges which are not the possession of all. We have a one-third representation on all official boards; we may serve—and in California frequently have so served—as presiding officer at Conference or Association. Our possibilities of service are many and varied, and we should give of our best to the church as a whole, as well as to our own.

Mrs. McClintock closed with an account of the Church of the Crossroads in Honolulu. This church, she told us, has incorporated into its building material, designs and symbols from the various countries which its membership represents: Japan, Korea, China, the Philippines, Portugal, England, Hawaii, and the mainland United States. All are blended together to give architectural harmony and are surmounted by the symbol of their unity—the Cross. Over the door is inscribed this prayer: "O God, may the doorway of this house we have builded to Thee be wide enough to receive all who need love and tenderness and a Heavenly Father's care; and narrow enough to shut out all pride and envy and hate. May its threshold be no stumbling block to weakness, or to little children, or to straying feet; but may it be rugged and strong enough to turn away the tempter's power. O God, may the doorway of this house be the gateway to the Eternal Kingdom." It is a prayer we may well make, each for our own church, whenever we enter it for a service; not forgetting that the fulfillment of the prayer depends upon ourselves.

Materials Available

Before beginning her address, Mrs. McClintock mentioned certain helps for our women's work: "Guide Posts," a pamphlet which is full of suggestions for the conduct of meetings, and is published monthly at a cost of twenty-five cents for the year; a Program Packet consisting of eight programs, obtainable for the same price; and two books, "How to Pray," by Stanley Jones, and "Women of the Bible," by Alice J. Wheaton, costing ten cents and fifty cents, respectively. These may all be secured through the Conference Office, 1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco. Mrs. McClintock requested that any one who had the October number of "Guide Posts" would send it to Mrs. R. A. Fuller, 266 Arch St., San Francisco 25, as there were calls for copies and the supply was exhausted.

Redwood Empire Report

A report from Mrs. Leland Barlow, President of the Redwood Empire Association, which was received too late for the October issue of the "Pacific," due to Mrs. Barlow's illness, told of their Association meeting in Guerneville, September 21, with Mrs. George Atkinson presiding. Mrs. Barlow has been spending much time and energy working up interest in a number of reading groups. The women will remember that we have until next April for the completion of our reading programs.

"Planning the Small Church," published by the Church Building Committee of the Home Missions Council, 297 Fourth Ave., New York 10. Price, $1.00. A book of plans and suggestions designed for ministers, architects, and all interested in the erection and improvement of smaller church buildings.

"Christian Education in Our Church," by Harry T. Stock, 35 cents. Prepared for Pastors and leaders who want to improve their work of Christian Education.

"My Church," the Congregational revision of the excellent Evangelical and Reform manual, "My Confirmation." A thorough and solid course for the Pastor's Class. Bound edition with notes, $1.00; pupil's books, $0.60. Order from Pacific Book Service.

SUPERINTENDENT GILL GOES EAST

Superintendent Harley H. Gill, who is also a Vice-President of The American Board, left for Boston October 22 to attend meetings of the Prudential Committee. He is expected back in his office November 7.

PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

MIDWINTER CONF. DEC. 27-29

Young people from our whole Conference will assemble in Stockton during the holidays for the Pilgrim Midwinter Conference. Attracted by a top-notch program for the two and one-half day session, P.F.ers will come by chartered bus, train, and car. The time is 4 p. m., Wednesday, Dec. 27, to 9 p. m. Friday, Dec. 29.

Headline speakers include Prof. James Muilenburg, Dr. Holland Burr, Dr. Harley Gill. The faculty represents popular leaders of our summer camps, headed by Rev. John Gregg of Fresno as Director. Mrs. Laura Haymond is to be Dean of Women, and Rev. Elmo Wolfe, Dean of Men.

The major program will be carried on through the four Commissions of P. F., —Personal Action, Social Action, Missionary Action, and Interdenominational Action.

Worship services will be planned by Personal Action Commission, Dorothea Brookover, chairman, with Rev. Art Casaday advising. The Recreation Committee, headed by Stan Matthew of Sacramento, will handle that department, with Rev. Henry Hayden as adviser, and Roy Nichols as song leader.

Other leaders and speakers include Chaplain Verdette Walters, Rev. Robert Inglis, Rev. David Stowe, Rev. Donald Gaylord, Rev. Al Schroeder (Evangelical and Reformed), Rev. Stephen Peabody, P. F. President Eleanor Miles, Secretary Mary Meadows, Treasurer Michael McGiffert, Field Secretary Wim Meyer, and the Host Pastor Rev. Noel Breed. And the line-up is not complete yet!

Housing will be provided in the Stockton Church, with "dormitories" for girls on the second floor and boys on the first floor. It will be, in fact, an indoor camp, with delegates bringing sleeping bags, cots being provided. $5. is the total fee including 7 meals and registration. Fees should be sent in advance if possible to P. F. Midwinter Registrar, 116 W. Willow, Stockton 17, Calif.

P. F. HANDBOOK ISSUED SOON

The Pilgrim Fellowship will issue a handbook and directory before the midwinter conference. Every Church should send in (to P. F., 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley 4) the names and addresses of young people's officers, including junior high and other groups, before Dec. 1st.

Meeting at Redwood Canyon, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, the P. F. Cabinet planned advances in significant directions for the coming year. The Social Action Commission, under chairmanship of Vasken Chakmakjian, sponsors the Million Hours Service plan which enlists young people is significant service projects within their churches and in the community (Nancy Bailey at 2345 Channinng, Berkeley 4, is million hour secretary to receive reports). Personal Action includes devotional disciplines, improvement of worship service, and lifetime service enlistment, with Dorothea Brookover as chairman. The Interdenominational Action Chairman, Virginia Phegler, is also president of the Christian Youth Council of Northern California,, which is planning a Conference Dec. 8-10 at Sacramento. Missionary Action, headed by Don Noble, enlists the interest of the young people in their six P. F. missionary projects; Plymouth House, Calaveras County, Pleasant Hill Academy, National P. F., Connie and Larry Stanton in Mexico, and West China Christian Students. Since April 1st, Pilgrim Fellowship groups and camps have given $207.87 for these projects.

At the P. F. Cabinet meeting, October 1st, the following significant resolution was passed: "RESOLVED that we express our definite conviction as the State Cabinet of the Northern California Pilgrim Fellowship and recommend to all local groups that returning Nisei be welcomed into membership in our groups and that as rapidly and widely as possible our groups transcend race barriers."

Rallies have been held at Fresno, Oct. 8, with nearly 100 attending, and at Armstrong Grove, Guerneville, with over 75 participating in discussions on Race Relations under leadership of Roy Nichols, Galen Fisher, Henry Hayden, Wim Meyer and Robert Gibson of WRA. Other Rallies are set for Martinez, Nov. 5th, and San Mateo, Nov. 12th.

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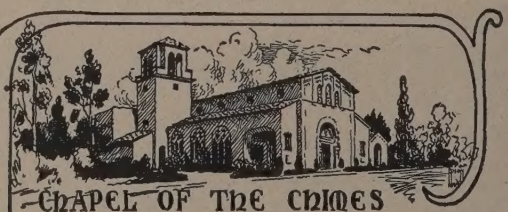
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